

## SIGNAL PROCESSING CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR INCREASING SPEECH INTELLIGIBILITY

### **Abstract**

In a signal processing circuit and method for increasing speech intelligibility, a receiving circuit may receive an audio signal detectable by a human. A gain amplifying circuit provides gain amplification of the audio signal. A shaping filter modifies the audio signal to be in phase with a second audio signal present at the receiving circuit and which is detected by the human unprocessed by the signal processing circuit. The shaping filter further differentially amplifies first and second speech formant frequencies to restore a normal loudness relationship between them. A feedback circuit controls the gain amplification in the gain amplifying circuit for enabling the signal processing circuit to substantially prevent regenerative oscillation of the amplified audio signal. Additionally, a signal tone may be injected into the signal processing circuit for automatically controlling the gain amplifying circuit.